

SAN JOSE CALIF
 Approved For Release 2000/04/13 : CIA-RDP70-00058R000200140203-9
 MERCURY

STATINT

A Profile In Courage

The debacle in Cuba has given President Kennedy a maturity despite the short time he has been in office. There are lines about his eyes, as seen by television, that testify to his "coming of age" under a period of what might be called historical duress.

He was wise in arranging for a session with former President Eisenhower, that warhorse who knows all about war and to thereby show the world that the nation is not divided because of the two-party system but is indeed a unit when there is a crisis.

He displayed an integrity by assuming all responsibility for the grievous blunder when he could have stated that he was merely following through on plans that were laid down under the previous Administration as long ago as 18 months. He absolutely refused to place any onus on Ike or on former Vice President Nixon who were rumored to have given their blessings to the abortive invasion. He said flatly that this was not so and the announcement came in a formal White House pronouncement following the meeting with Eisenhower.

The President has also said he will not ask for the resignation of Allen W. Dulles, who heads up the Central Intelligence Agency, and who apparently was responsible for the theory that there would be an uprising of Cubans who would march shoulder to shoulder with the anti-Castro invaders or at least provide a nucleus of an anti-Castro force.

who landed was visible and if the reports that the CIA has again erred are true, then perhaps there might be another think about Dulles.

It was the CIA which was derelict when Eisenhower was supposed to have visited Japan and was told only at the last minute that it might be personally dangerous for him when the rioting mobs protested against a U.S.-Japanese treaty.

It was the CIA which was responsible when Britain, France and Israel invaded Egypt and brought on the Suez Canal crisis, leaving this nation unprepared, so that we had to step in at the last minute and denounce our own allies at the United Nations.

It was the CIA which was responsible for not informing the State Department of the impending difficulties when the new African states were formed.

It was the CIA which was responsible for lack of information about the Lebanese crisis which might have precipitated a war.

It was the CIA which was responsible for not warning Nixon, when he went to South America, that there were ugly and dissident plots to assail him and his wife.

Surely, the CIA has done good work that is unknown, because of security reasons, to the press and the public. There are endless files and reports that can testify to this. But the CIA is not at all functioning the way it should be considering the enormous budget and the vast capabilities.